

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9, and 11-34 were examined in the most recent office action, dated August 15, 2005. Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 32, 33, and 34 are allowable, and that claims 3, 6, 7, 22, and 23 would be allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 11-21, and 24-31 stand rejected over various alleged prior art references. By way of this amendment, claims 1-7, 9, and 11-31 have been canceled and claims 35-68 have been added. These claims have been canceled without prejudice to filing a continuation application, as applicants continue to believe that the claims are allowable over the references cited in the latest office action. However, applicants file this amendment to expedite the issuance of a patent with the allowed claims.

Allowed independent claims 32-34 remain pending. New dependent claims 35-41 depend from independent claim 32 and correspond to previously filed claims 2, 4-8, and 25, with the exception that in claims 37, 38 and 45 the words "consisting of" was re-written as "comprising". New dependent claims 42-48 depend from claim 33 and correspond to previously filed claims 2-5, 7, 8, and 25, with the same exception. New dependent claims 49-68 depend from independent claim 34 and correspond to previously filed claims 10-21, 23, 24, and 26-31.

All pending claims are allowable. Independent claims 32-34 have already been found allowable. Dependent claims 35-68 are allowable because they depend from allowable independent claims. Further, applicants submit that dependent claims 35-68 comply with matters of form because they correspond to previously examined claims where no such rejections were made.


All claims are in condition for allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks. Withdrawal of the various rejections are hereby respectfully solicited. The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below in order to discuss any remaining issues or matters of form that will place this case in condition for allowance.

The fee for a one month extension of time and two further total claims is included herewith. No other fee is believed due at this time. However, if another fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or to credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 13-2855 under Order Number 30071/32004 of the undersigned's firm.

Respectfully submitted,

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